Early Warning System

WB-P513072

Advancing Learning, Entrepreneurship, and Markets for Artificial Intelligence

Quick Facts

Countries	Kazakhstan
Financial Institutions	World Bank (WB)
Status	Proposed
Bank Risk Rating	B
Voting Date	2026-09-30
Borrower	Government of Kazakhstan - Ministry of Artificial Intelligence and Digital Development
Sectors	Industry and Trade
Investment Type(s)	Loan
Investment Amount (USD)	$ 75.00 million
Project Cost (USD)	$ 145.13 million

Project Description

According to the Bank’s website, the objective of this project is to enable the creation, commercialization and scale-up of technology startups for productivity-driven growth in Kazakhstan.

The project aims to strengthen Kazakhstan's position in AI and Industry 4.0 by investing in research, skills, and innovation ecosystems (US$30 million), including the creation of an AI Center, cloud platforms, robotics labs, tailored training programs, and talent attraction measures. It will also support startup development (US$39.85 million) through ideation-to-seed support, acceleration, international exposure, and a venture capital fund to catalyze private investment in ICT, Industry 4.0, and greentech. Finally, the project allocates resources (US$5.2 million) to monitoring, evaluation, and project management, ensuring effective implementation, inter-agency coordination, and providing analytics on innovation ecosystem gaps and best practices to help policymakers make informed startup policy decisions.

Early Warning System Project Analysis

The project's environmental and social (E&S) risks are rated as **Moderate** at the appraisal stage. The operation will strengthen Kazakhstan's innovation and startup ecosystem by advancing research capacity, developing specialized skills, and mobilizing private investment for next-generation technologies and AI solutions, with activities implemented within existing facilities and no new construction, building renovation, or land acquisition envisaged.

Physical interventions are limited to procuring and installing digital, computing, and robotics equipment (e.g., high-performance GPU resources and robotics lab assets), which present predictable, site-confined environmental risks related to resource efficiency, energy use and equipment maintenance; possible generation of small amounts of packaging waste and minor disturbances during delivery and setup; potential e-waste generation at the end of the equipment lifecycle during the operation phase; low-to-moderate OHS risks during equipment handling and installation; and (iv) downstream risks associated with the use of supported technologies, data storage, and processing of digital operations, if not managed sustainably.

Investment Description

- World Bank (WB)

Total Project Cost: US$ 145.13 million

International Bank for Reconstruction and Development: US$ 75.00 million

Contact Information

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ACCESS TO INFORMATION

To submit an information request for project information, you will have to create an account to access the Access to Information request form. You can learn more about this process at: https://www.worldbank.org/en/access-to-information/request-submission

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Bank Documents

- Appraisal Environmental and Social Review Summary (ESRS) - Advancing Learning Entrepreneurship and M
- Appraisal Project Information Document (PID)
- Concept Environmental and Social Review Summary (ESRS) - Fostering Productive Innovation Project II
- Concept Project Information Document (PID)
- Environmental and Social Code of Practice (ESCOP) Advancing Learning Entrepreneurship and Markets fo
- Environmental and Social Commitment Plan (ESCP) - Advancing Learning Entrepreneurship and Markets fo
- Labor Management Procedures Advancing Learning Entrepreneurship and Markets for Artificial Intellige
- Revised Environmental and Social Commitment Plan (ESCP) Advancing Learning Entrepreneurship and Mark
- Revised Environmental and Social Commitment Plan (ESCP) Advancing Learning Entrepreneurship and Mark
- Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) - Advancing Learning Entrepreneurship and Markets for Artificial I